Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 10954 200926Z ACTION IO-13

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R 200841Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2345 INFO USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 10954

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PLAB, ILO

SUBJECT: EMBASSY DEMARCHE TO RTG ON ILO

REF: STATE 102699

- 1. ON MAY 10 AMBASSADOR GAVE FOREIGN MINISTER UPPADIT PACHARI-YANGKUN A WRITTEN SUMMARY OF U.S. POLICY ON ISSUES FACING 63RD INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE.
- 2. ECONOMIC CONSELOR PROVIDED COPY OF SAME WRITTEN SUMMARY TO CHUAY KANNAWAT, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT, MFA, ON MAY 10 FOR TRANSMISSION TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENT.
- 3. LABOR OFFICER CALLED ON SUWIT YINGWOROPHAN, DIRECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND SENCHAI REANTRAGOON, CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ON MAY 19. LABOR OFFICER DESCRIBED IN SOME DETAIL U.S. POLICY ON CURRENT ILO ISSUES PER REFTEL AND PROVIDED WRITTEN SUMMARY.
- 4. SUWIT SAID RTG DELEGATION TO 63 RD CONFERENCE WILL CONSIST OF HIMSELF AS CHAIRMAN, SECHAI REANTRAGOON AND BUSABA BUNNAG, THIRD SECRETARY AT THAI MISSION IN GENEVA. MINISTER OF INTERIOR SAMAK SUNTHORAWET WILL ATTEND PART OF CONFERENCE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 10954 200926Z

AS VISITNG MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR LABOR. LABOR AND EMPLOYER DELEGATIONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN ANNOUNCED.

5. SUWIT SAID HE PERSONALLY CAN SUPPORT U.S. POSITION ON PENDING ISSUES BUT RTG POLICY WILL NOT BE FINALIZED UNTIL HE MEETS WITH SAMAK ON MAY 20. SUWIT SAID RTG WOULD LIKE THE UNITED STATES TO REMAIN IN ILO.

6. COMMENT. EMBASSY BELIEVES U.S. POSITION ON ILO ISSUES BASICALLY COMPATIBLE WITH RTG INTERESTS, ESPECIALLY CONCERNING DEPOLITICIZATION OF ILO AND MAINTENANCE OF ILO AS EFFECTIVE, TECHNICAL ORGANIZATION. EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT HIGH-LEVEL, LOW-KEY LOBBYING BY U.S. DELEGATION WITH RTG DELEGATION COULD BRING USEFUL SUPPORT FOR U.S. EFFORTS. WHITEHOUSE

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